

SN 10/774,224 – Amended Claims -
Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.111

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1(currently amended). An electromagnetic shielding structure,
2 comprising:
3 at least one elongated first element defining an electrically conductive
4 barrier surface against propagation of electromagnetic energy through said first
5 element;
6 at least one second element, generally oriented along the conductive
7 barrier surface defined by the first element, for continuing said barrier surface
8 against propagation of electromagnetic energy;
9 wherein at least one of the first and second elements has at least a
10 portion of a limited length, oriented to cross a plane of ~~with~~ the barrier surface
11 defined by the other of said first and second elements, wherein said portion
12 has a receiving slot into which the other of said first and second elements is
13 insertable, said receiving slot having an inside width that is nominally smaller
14 than an outside width of said other of said first and second elements for
15 insertion into the receiving slot, wherein at least one of said receiving slot and
16 said other of the first and second elements is deformed by said insertion, and
17 wherein the first and second elements are electrically and mechanically
18 connected by said insertion.

1 2(original). The shielding structure of claim 1, wherein the first and
2 second elements comprise walls of a shielding enclosure.

1 3(original). The shielding structure of claim 2, wherein the walls of the
2 shielding enclosure extend in parallel planes and overlap one another.

1 4(original). The shielding structure of claim 2, wherein the walls of the
2 shielding enclosure meet along a right angle edge.

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1 5(currently amended). The shielding structure of claim 3, wherein the
2 portion oriented to cross the barrier surface comprises a tab cut from a section
3 of said one of the first and second elements, said tab defining that has the
4 limited length portion, wherein the tab is bent from the plane of said section so
5 as to cross the plane of the barrier surface defined by the other of said
6 first and second elements, and wherein the receiving slot is disposed
7 along said tab.

1 6(original). The shielding structure of claim 3, wherein the portion
2 oriented to cross the barrier surface comprises one of a concavity and a
3 convexity at which a section of said one of the first and second elements is
4 deformed to provide said portion.

1 7(original). The shielding structure of claim 1, wherein the portion
2 comprises a connector having a vee groove with converging sides leading into
3 a slot, wherein the slot at least partly defines the receiving slot for said insertion.

1 8(original). The shielding structure of claim 1, wherein the portion has
2 a groove leading into a slot with parallel sides, wherein the slot at least partly
3 defines the slot for said insertion.

1 9(original). The shielding structure of claim 1, wherein the portion
2 comprises at least one insulation displacement connector fitting having
3 converging knife edges

1 10(currently amended). A method for electromagnetically shielding a
2 load, comprising the steps of:
3 defining a shielding enclosure around the load for blocking at least one of
4 ingress and egress of electromagnetic energy;

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5 placing a first element comprising a conductive material to provide a
6 conductive barrier surface encompassing part of the shielding enclosure;
7 continuing the conductive barrier surface by placing at least one second
8 element comprising a conductive material, to encompass a further part of the
9 shielding enclosure, wherein the second element is generally oriented along the
10 conductive barrier surface defined by the first element;
11 crossing the first and second elements over at least at least a portion
12 limited length along one of the first and second elements having a receiving
13 slot; ~~wherein~~
14 sizing the receiving slot with ~~has~~ an inside width that is nominally
15 smaller than an outside width of said other of said first and second elements for
16 insertion into the receiving slot so as to provide an interference fit of said
17 other of said first and second elements into the receiving slot;
18 forcibly inserting an edge of the other of said first and second elements
19 into the receiving slot, thereby deforming at least one of said receiving slot and
20 said edge inserted therein, wherein insertion of the edge in the receiving slot
21 mechanically attaches and electrically couples the first and second elements.